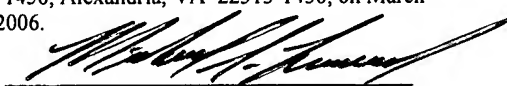


**IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

Applicant(s): H. Mizuhara et al.  
For: SILENT SURFACE FASTENER  
Int'l Appl No.: PCT/JP2003/011938  
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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

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Michael S. Leonard

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
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P.O. Box 1450  
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Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National Stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371, and prior to calculation of claim fees.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' Representative to discuss any issues with this application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Listing of Claims** begins on page 4 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this Preliminary Amendment.